

Message Text

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E.O. 11652 XGDS-3

TAGS/ PFOR MASS JO US

SUBJECT: HAWKS FOR JORDAN--NEXT STEPS

REF: STATE 231082

1. WE ARE PARTICULARLY DISTURBED BY DISCUSSION IN PARA 8A OF REFTL WHICH IMPLIES THAT WE WILL BE USING US MILITARY PERSONNEL IN POSSIBLE HAWK CONTRACT MONITORING TEAM "TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH U.S. ASSURANCES TO CONGRESS" ON HAWK SALE.

2. ISSUE AS NEURALGIC AS THIS ONE CAN GET COMPLETELY OUT OF HAND IF I HAVE MILITARY OFFICERS RUNNING AROUND HERE BELIEVING THEY HAVE SOME SORT OF INSPECTION AND CONTROL FUNCTION. I BELIEVE THAT ROLE SHOULD BE COMPLETELY IN THE HANDS OF THE AMBASSADOR AND WASHINGTON AGENCIES GIVEN THE JORDANIANS INITIAL REACTION TO PARA 3 OF PRESIDENT'S LETTER AND OUR STATEMENT THAT WE DID NOT CONTEMPLATE SENDING INSPECTION TEAMS HERE. FURTHER,PRESIDENT'S LETTER ASSURES CONGRESS THAT JORDANIANS ACTION IN DEPLOYING MISSILES WOULD BE THE CONTINUING ASSURANCE OF THEIR COMMITMENT TO US. IF THEY WERE TO HEAR WE INTENDED USING US TEAMS TO DO THAT UNDER GUISE OF EXPEDITING THE CONTRACT OUR POLITICAL PROBLEMS WOULD BECOME EVEN MORE UNMANAGEABLE.

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3. FNALLY, JORDANAINS DO NOT KNOW WHAT TRAINING LIMITATION

IS IMPLIED. NEITHER DO WE KNOW WHAT TRAINING APPROPRIATE TO A NON MOBILE WEAPON IS. THE JORDANIANS BELIEVE HAWK IS BASICALLY NON MOBILE TO BEGIN WITH AND THAT PHRASE WAS PUT IN AS A CONGRESSIONAL FACESAVER AND IS DEVOID OF PRACTICAL MEANING. BUT IF WE ARE GOING TO LIMIT TRAINING, BECAUSE OF THE POLITICAL RAMIFICATIONS WE NEED TO KNOW HERE WHAT IS REALLY INTENDED. AGAIN, THE IDEA THAT A DOD/RAYTHEON TEAM WOULD BE WATCHDOG OF THIS EFFORT LEAVES ME GREATLY CONCERNED SINCE WE ARE NOT HOLDING BACK ANY EQUIPMENT EXCEPT THE R&D FIRE ASSAULT CONSOLE,NE ASSUME TRAINING WILL BE APPROPRIATE TO THE EFFECTIVE OPERATION OF THE EQUIPMENT THEY ARE BUYING. CERTAINLY WE CANNOT GIVEM THEM LESS THAN THE SAUDIS ARE GETTING.

4. WE HOPE IN THE FUTURE DISCUSSIONS OF THESE POINTS COULD BE IN MORE RESTRICTIVE CHANNELS BECAUSE OF POLITICAL SENSITIVILTY HERE. IN ADDITION, WE WILL NEED TO HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING THAN AT PRESENT OF WASHINGTON'S CONCEPT OF MONITORING AND CONTROL BEFORE WE GET TOO MUCH FURTHER AHEAD. WE WOULD WELCOME A FURTHER EXPRESSION OF YOUR VIEWS AND INTENTIONS I LIGHT OF THIS CABLE.
PICKERING

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